

Message Text

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STADIS//////////

FOR UNDERSECRETARY SISCO AND UNDERSECRETARY MAU FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: INT, MASS, JO, US

SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE TRAINING FOR JORDAN ARMED FORCES

1. I AM WRITING YOU PERSONALLY BECUASE I FEEL IT IMPORTANT THAT YOU KNOW MY VIEWS ON A MILITARY ASSISTANCE QUESTION WHICH HITS HARD AT OUR OWN CREDIBILITY IN JORDAN AND OUR CONSTANCY AS A FRIEND. FOR SOME YEARS JORDAN HAS WANTED TRAINING IM MILITARY INTELLIGENCE EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENTS. THIS KIND OF TRAINING DOES NOT INVOLVE SUPPRESSING OR INTERFERING WITH CIVILIAN INSTITUTIONS. IT IS NOT RELATED TO COVERT OPERATIONS OR ACTION.

2. RECENTLY WE WERE TOLD THAT COUNTRIES WHICH WERE RECIPIENTS OF GRANT OR CREDIT AID COULD NOT AVAIL THEMSELVES, EVEN AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE, OF A TRAINING COURSE IN STRAIGHT LINE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE. WHILE IN WASHINGTON LAST MONTH, I WAS TOLD THAT THIS DECISION WAS MADE TO PROTECT THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN THE AFTERMATH OF RECENT CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATIONS OF IMPROPER INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES. I CAN UNDERSTAND THE GENUINE DESIRE TO PROTECT OUR SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRASM IN THE LIGHT OF THE PROBLEM THAT THEN EXISTED. HOWEVER IN MY VIEW WE HAVE PASSED THAT STAGE. I WOULD
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LIKE TO ASK FOR A REVIEW OF THE GENERAL POLICY AND

SEEK A GENERAL REFINEMENT. IF THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK FOR AN EXCEPTION FOR JORDAN.

3. MY SUGGESTION FOR A GENERAL REFINEMENT OF OUR POLICY WOULD BE THAT THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SHOULD NOT BE CHARGED FOR INTELLIGENCE TRAINING. IN ADDITION, WE WOULD NOT SELL TO FMS CUSTOMERS INTELLIGENCE TRAINING WHICH DEALT WITH SUCH ISSUES AS COVERT COLLECTION, CONTROL OVER CIVIL POPULATION AND OTHER TYPES OF TRAINING GENERALLY RELATING TO ACTIVITIES CRITICIZED DURING RECENT CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATIONS. WE SHOULD HOWEVER PROVIDE COURSES OF REGULAR MILITARY INTELLIGENCE NECESSARY FOR THE EFFECTIVE OPERATION OF US MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO ALL ELIGIBLE FMS CUSTOMERS ON AN FMS CASH BASIS.

4. MY REASONS ARE THE FOLLOWING:

A. INTELLIGENCE TRAINING FOR MILITARY OFFICERS AND MEN MAKES THEM MORE EFFECTIVE IN THE USE OF THE EQUIPMENT WE PROVIDE COUNTRIES FOR THEIR OWN DEFENSE.

B. LIMITING SUCH TRAINING TO NON-RECIPIENT COUNTRIES IMPLIES THAT WE CANNOT EXPLAIN TO THE CONGRESS, AND THE CONGRESS CANNOT UNDERSTAND, THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NEEDED AND ACCEPTABLE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE TRAINING AND THAT WHICH IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. TO ME THIS IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE CONGRESS'S ACCEPTANCE OF AND WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE OUR OWN ACTIVITIES IN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE IN A CAREFUL AND CONTROLLED WAY.

5. IF A GENERAL DEFINITION OF POLICY WHICH WOULD ALLOW SUCH ACCEPTABLE COURSES TO GO AHEAD IS NOT POSSIBLE, I WOULD RECOMMEND A SPECIFIC EXCEPTION FOR JORDAN FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

A. REGARDLESS OF THE BUREAUCRATIC HISTORY OF THIS PROJECT, JORDAN HAS ASKED FOR AND WAS OFFERED THESE COURSES AS EARLY AS SEPTEMBER 1975.

B. THE JORDANIANS CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO UNDERSTAND WHY IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA ARE OFFERED THESE COURSES WHEN THEY ARE NOT.

C. THEY WILL TAKE OUR EXPLANATION ABOUT CONGRESSIONAL DCONCERN AND SECURITY ASSISTANCE AS UNREAL, CONFIDENTIAL

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SINCE THEY HAVE, THEY BELIEVE, EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH CONGRESS AND ARE INDEED TOLD THAT OFTEN BY CONGRESSIONAL VISITORS HERE AND DURING THE KING'S VISITS TO THE U.S.

D. I BELIEVE JORDANIANS WILL FIND THIS ONE MORE PIN-PRICK ISSUE WHICH WILL BE TAKEN AS DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THEM AND I BELIEVE WE SHOULD AVIOD HAVING IT PUSHED UP TO SENIOR LEVELS IN THE GOJ.

6. I APOLOGIZE FOR CUTTING INTO YOUR TIME AND THAT
OF YOUR STAFF. I BELIEVE THE ISSUE CAN BE WORKED OUT
IN A WAY WHICH FULLY PROTECTS US WITH THE CONGRESS AND
AT THE SAME TIME PROVIDES NEEDED TRAINING FOR OUR CLOSE
FRIENDS. I HOPE YOU WILL RE-EXAMINE THE QUESTION.
PICKERING

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